

I. General Remarks Concerning This Response

Claims 1-54 are currently pending. No claims have been amended, canceled, or added herein. Reconsideration of the claims is requested.

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II. Rejections over Van Stam and Carey et al.

The Office action has rejected claims 4-6, 11, 16, 22-24, 29, 34, 40-42, 47, and 52 as unpatentable over Van Stam, "Intelligent Peer-to-Peer System and Method for Collaborative Suggestions and Propagation of Media", U.S. Patent Application Publication Number US 2003/0014759 A1, filed 12/21/2000 (effective filing date of at least 08/22/2000), published 01/16/2003, in view of Carey et al., "System and Method for Performing Content Experience Management", U.S. Patent Application Publication Number US 2002/0112035 A1, filed 10/30/2000, published 08/15/2002. The rejections are further traversed hereinbelow in conjunction with the reasons and arguments that were filed in the previous response mailed 02/10/2004.

Applicant respectfully asserts that Applicant completed and reduced to practice the claimed invention before the earliest effective filing date of Carey et al. (October 30, 2000). A declaration, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131, has been duly executed by Rabindranath Dutta, an inventor of the present invention; the declaration is included with this response. The inventor declares that Applicant's claimed invention was completed and reduced to practice prior to October 30, 2000. Exhibit "A" to the inventor's declaration is an IBM Invention Disclosure Form that disclosed Applicant's

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claimed invention. This Disclosure was submitted to the IBM Intellectual Property Law Department in Austin, Texas prior to October 30, 2000. The inventor's declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131, therefore, removes Carey et al. from consideration as prior art. Because Carey et al. is not prior art with respect to Applicant's claimed invention, Applicant respectfully asserts that the above-noted claims are allowable for the aforesaid reasons along with the reasons that were presented in the previous response.

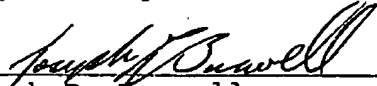
III. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the present application is patentable, and Applicant kindly requests a Notice of Allowance.

For any other outstanding matters or issues, the examiner is urged to call or fax the below-listed telephone numbers to expedite the prosecution and examination of this application.

DATE: February 10, 2004

Respectfully submitted,


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